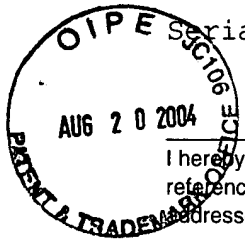


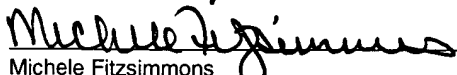
IFW



Serial No. 10/730,971

**PATENT**  
**IBM Docket No. JP920020248US1**

I hereby certify that this correspondence (37 CFR 1.97(b)) and attached documents (i.e., PTO 1449 and copies of all cited references) are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope with sufficient postage addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

  
Michele Fitzsimmons

08/18/2004  
Date of Deposit

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of	:	August 18, 2004
Junichi Asoh, et al;	:	IBM Corporation - 9CCA/B002
	:	P.O. Box 12195
Serial No. 10/730,971	:	Research Triangle Park,
	:	North Carolina 27709
Filed: 12/09/2003	:	Unit: 2131

**For: Data Protection System For Removable Recording Medium**

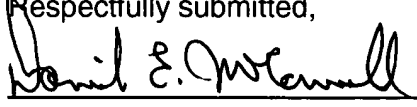
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**

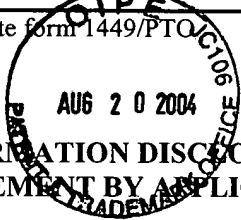
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants request that the information listed on the attached (Substitute) Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Office during the pendency of the above-entitled application, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within three months of the filing date of the application, or before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits. No fee or certification is required.

No fee is believed to be necessary; however, in the event that any fee is required, please charge it to **IBM Corporation's Deposit Account Number 09-1990.**

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Daniel McConnell  
Reg. No. 20,360  
Attorney of Record  
PHONE 919-543-1105  
FAX 919-254-2649

Substitute form 1449/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				<b>Complete if Known</b>		
				Application Number	10/730,971	
				Filing Date	12/09/2003	
				First Named Inventor	Junichi Asoh, et al;	
				Group Art Unit	2131	
				Examiner Name	Unknown	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	JP920020248US1	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initials	IDS Doc #	U.S. Patent Document Number	Name of Patentee or Applicant		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initials	IDS Doc #	Office	Foreign Patent Document No.	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Date of Publication	English Translation
			09-237228	Japan - Toshiba Corp	09/09/1997	Yes
<b>OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initials	IDS Doc #	Include the name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published				English Translation
Examiner Signature					Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant